

Message Text

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61

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 OMB-01 AID-20 EB-11 DRC-01

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R 071625Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2168

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE YAOUNDE 4008

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, CM, FR

SUBJECT: FRENCH-CAMEROON NEGOTIATIONS SUSPENDED

REF: YAOUNDE 3514

1. OFFICIAL CAMEROON MEDIA REPORTED TODAY (DEC 7) THAT SECOND PHASE OF FRANCO-CAMEROON NEGOTIATIONS FOR NEW COOPERATION AGREEMENTS WHICH HAD RESUMED IN YAOUNDE NOV 29 WERE SUSPENDED DEC 6 AT REQUEST OF FRENCH DELEGATION. NEGOTIATIONS TO RESUME "SOON" IN YAOUNDE AT DATE TO BE AGREED UPON. REPORT STATED THAT CONSIDERABLE PROGRESS MADE DURING THIS SECOND PHASE OF DISCUSSIONS AT "EXPERTS" LEVEL (FRENCH DEL LED BY AUDIBERT) IN "ESPECIALLY FRIENDLY" ATMOSPHERE.

2. COMMENT: FRENCH EMBASSY SOURCES TOLD US SEVERAL DAYS AGO THAT FIRST FEW SESSIONS OF THIS SECOND PHASE HAD CONSISTED OF BOTH DELEGATIONS RESTATING POSITIONS ITERATED DURING FIRST PHASE SEPT/OCT SESSION IN PARIS. DESCRIBED GURC POSITION AS "TOUGH" BUT STILL CONTEMPLATED SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION NEGOTIATIONS

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THIS MONTH. PRESIDENT AHIDJO, IN NOV 25 SPEECH TO

NATIONAL PARTY COUNCIL (YAOUNDE 3898), HAD SPOKEN MORE STRONGLY THAN PREVIOUSLY ABOUT NEGOTIATIONS AND STRESSED THAT NUMEROUS IMPORTANT POINTS REMAINED UNRESOLVED. OTHERWISE, AS USUAL, GURC OFFICIALS COMPLETELY SILENT. FRENCH DEL, OR AT LEAST SOME MEMBERS, LEFT YAOUNDE THIS MORNING. WE HAVE NOT YET HAD CHANCE CHECK REASONS FOR SUSPENSION WITH FRENCH SOURCES, BUT SUSPECT THAT RESOLUTION OF REMAINING PROBLEMS PROVING HARDER THAN ANTICIPATED.
MOORE

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